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Statement of the Value of European and Colonial Merchandise at the Fair in 1841.

Articles.	For Sale.	Sold.
	Silver Roubles.	Silver Roubles.
Woolens and Stuffs	256,455	212,605
Cottons	510,830	423,290
Linens, and Hempen goods	192,300	180,700
Silks	423,130	328,980
Coffee, 7,200 poods	100,800	
Divers Merchandise, Oils, Prints, Confi- tures, &c.. . . . }	491,600 }	392,390
Foreign Wines	786,529	662,029
Indigo, 9,180 poods	918,000	
Other Drugs	547,550 }	1,225,550
	4,227,194	3,425,544
European and Colonial Merchandise in 1840	Silver Roubles. 4,451,581	Silver Roubles. 3,648,081

Educational Statistics, 1840-41. By SEYMOUR TREMENEERE,
Esq., F.S.S.

THE Appendix, No. 2, attached to the recently published volume of the Minutes of the Committee of Council on Education, comprises the statistics of applications for aid from the Parliamentary grant, which have been considered and determined in the year 1840-41. This document is in a tabular form, but its materials have not been condensed so as to exhibit the results that may be deduced from them. This I have endeavoured to do with such portions as throw light on a few of the more prominent features of the subject.

The sum placed by Parliament at the disposal of the Committee of Council was 30,000*l*. This has given rise to 310 applications, the purport of which was, with but few exceptions, to obtain aid towards the erection of new school buildings, the total estimated cost of which appears to have amounted to 80,932*l*. 17*s*. This exhibits a proposed expenditure of 270 per cent. above the sum offered in aid of that purpose from the public funds; and it may be fairly inferred that a large proportion of this contemplated expenditure has been called into existence by the prospect of such aid.

The total number of children for which accommodation was to be provided in these new school buildings was 56,784, in 282 schools. In 28 cases (the difference between this last number and the total applications) the parties have not stated what number of children they proposed to accommodate. The total income upon which the promoters of these schools reckon for their support may be stated at about 18,250*l*, to be derived from annual subscriptions and donations, annual collections, endowments, school fees, and other sources. Of this sum, 13,420*l*. 8*s*. appears as the amount of revenue which the applicants themselves state they expect to obtain from the above sources. In the case of 68 applications, the expected income is either said to be uncertain, or no answer is given to the query. To these cases I have applied the medium estimate of 2*d*. per week per head for each child for which they propose to

find accommodation. This gives the sum of 4,830*l.*, and makes up the above-mentioned total of 18,250*l.*

A total income of 18,250*l.*, divided among 282 schools, gives an average of somewhat less than 65*l.* to each. Of the 214 in which the expected income is stated, that of 35 only is above 100*l.*; 16 are between 80*l.* and 100*l.*; 47 between 50*l.* and 80*l.*; and the remaining 116 are between 20*l.* and 50*l.*, with the exception of four cases, in which the income is estimated at from 8*l.* to 18*l.* The general result is, that in 47 schools the income is stated to be above 80*l.*, and in 163 below it. If all the above 282 were boys' schools only, the average income from which the usual current expenses are to be provided, as well as the salary of the master, must be considered as exceedingly restricted; but since many of them, as appears from the numbers they propose to accommodate, must be both boys' and girls' schools, and consequently requiring both a master and mistress, the sum to be divided between both, taken as an average, is manifestly far short of what would be desirable with a view to the welfare of these schools. It must be expected that in this, as in other occupations, the ability and the acquirements attracted towards it will be pretty nearly in proportion to the means of comfortable existence that it holds out. The very low rate of remuneration offered by the great majority of these schools may therefore be taken as an index, if not of the kind of qualifications with which their promoters may be considered as being content, yet at least of those which they can expect to find in the teachers they will be able to obtain, and to whom they will have to confide these important trusts.

In reference to this portion of the subject, I may avail myself of an extract from a letter from a gentleman connected with a large commercial firm in London. It tends to show, at least as regards large towns, the scale of income which would be likely to induce persons of the ability requisite to make good masters of elementary schools, voluntarily to dedicate their lives to a profession requiring much self-denial and considerable personal exertions. The passage is as follows:

"Any steady mechanic in our employment, of the class of engineer, millwright, coppersmith, cooper, &c., can earn 80*l.* a year; the skilful portion of them can earn much more: and I shall not expect to get the best class of young men to become schoolmasters, unless their income from their profession shall at least equal that of skilful mechanics."

In further illustration of this portion of the subject I may add, that of 35 boys' schools recently visited, in, or in the immediate vicinity of London, two of the masters had incomes amounting to 150*l.* per annum; six between 110*l.* and 100*l.*; eight between 100*l.* and 80*l.*: total, 17 whose incomes were above, and 18 whose incomes were below 80*l.*

As these schools have the advantage of being chiefly in the metropolis, they obtain support and assistance which raises the salaries of their masters above the usual average. It is therefore desirable, at a time when there seems to be a growing disposition to incur a liberal expenditure in school buildings, to direct especial attention to this point—namely, to the low degree of remuneration too generally thought sufficient for the masters of elementary schools. It must be evident that while this is the case, none but the most inadequate results can ensue. A class of masters for the schools of the working population, possessing the proper intellectual capabilities, calculated by manners and habits to improve those committed to their charge, and acquainted with the prin-

ciples and best methods of elementary instruction, of school discipline and management, can only be attracted into this branch of employment by liberal salaries and a due social consideration.

Of the sum entrusted to the Committee of Council during the last year, 27,655*l.* was assigned to the various applicants, and accepted by them, chiefly in aid of buildings which they proposed to erect. Of this sum, 150*l.* went to a Roman Catholic school; 1170*l.* to schools connected with the British and Foreign Society; 980*l.* to schools in Scotland; and 25,355*l.* to schools connected with the Established Church. The large proportion of the total sum assigned, which thus appears to have been placed at the disposal of the Church, is a proof of the exertions now in progress among her members in this direction, and of the large amount of local contributions (much more than double that of the sum assigned from the public grant), which have been called forth towards the erection of new buildings for school purposes.

Among the total number of applicants, 122, or upwards of one-third, stated that they had secured play-grounds adjoining the school buildings: a provision, the importance of which in aid of the moral discipline, as well as of the health and cheerfulness of the school, especially in large towns, is apparently beginning to be more generally recognized.

The only remaining point which these tables present, requiring notice in this place, is the tabular arrangement of the various classes of persons proposing themselves as trustees for these intended schools. In addition to the respective columns for the clergy, ministers, the gentry, professional men, merchants, and manufacturers, there appear three also for farmers, shopkeepers, and working men: and of these three last classes, 42 schools have trustees selected also from the first, in conjunction with individuals of the preceding classes; 24 from the second; and one only, a Scotch school, from the third. It is much to be desired that these indications of a disposition to extend through all the gradations of society the bonds of sympathy and co-operation, in a cause and at a period pre-eminently standing in need of both, may receive further encouragement; and that future statistical tables of the Committee of Council on Education may exhibit a larger and a gradually increasing proportion of working men, shopkeepers, and farmers, willing and capable of taking an efficient part in the important task of aiding to disseminate useful learning and religious education throughout the entire mass of her Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BESIDES the Papers which are contained in the present Number of the Journal, there were read before the Statistical Section of the British Association at Manchester, one on the Statistics of Plymouth, by H. Woolcombe, Esq.; one on the Commerce of France, in 1840, by the Rev. Mr. Jones; a Report on the Vital Statistics of Manchester, by a Committee of the Statistical Society of Manchester; and a Report on the Vital Statistics of Five Towns in Scotland, by a Committee of the Statistical Section of the British Association. The first of these is almost exclusively of local interest; the second and third were presented to the Section in a printed form, and, being already published, require only a notice of their principal results, which will appear in the next Number of the Journal. The latter also demands a special